

Keeping Our Best Sailors

Advancement

Future needs of the Naval Reserve Force

If you are finding it hard to advance in an overmanned rating, think about changing to one of these needed by the Force:

MA IS BM CT
www.navalreserve.com

Education

Troops to Cops www.cops.usdoj.gov
Troops to Teachers www.dantes.doded.mil

Staying the course

Do you have a willingness to adapt and change while continuing your education?

Why Stay Navy?

Patriotism, camaraderie, esprit de corps, networking and travel
www.staynavy.mil

More Benefits:

Reserve GI Bill www.gibill.va.gov
Thrift Savings Plan www.defenselink.mil/militarypay

Career Decision Survey

A must for all members leaving the Naval Reserve Force or re-enlisting:
<http://reservesurvey.nprdc.navy.mil>



"Lone Sailor" materials courtesy of U.S. Navy Memorial

Web sites

Naval Reserve Force
<http://reserves.navy.mil> (accessible to public)
<https://reserves.navy.mil> (requires password)

Other Useful Sites

Naval Reserve Job/Benefits
www.navy-reserve-jobs.com
Navy Counselors Association, Inc.
www.usnca.org
Veteran Affairs
www.va.gov
Morale, Welfare & Recreation
www.mwr.navy.mil
Navy E-Learning
www.navylearning.navy.mil
Lifelines
www.lifelines.navy.mil
Smart Transcripts
www.smart.cnet.navy.mil
Navy College Program Web Site
www.navycollege.navy.mil
Navy Enlisted Programs
www.cnet.navy.mil/enlisted_programs.html
Navy Senior Enlisted Academy
www.cnet.navy.mil/seal
Navy Seaman to Admiral Program
www.cnet.navy.mil/seaman_admiral.html
Navy Officer Programs
www.cnet.navy.mil/officer_programs.html
Navy Postgraduate School
www.nps.navy.mil
Naval War College
www.nwc.navy.mil
Transition Assistance
www.taonline.com

Career Decision Survey (CDS)

The Naval Reserve Career Decision Survey (NR CDS) gathers factual data to determine why Drilling Reservists remain in or leave the Naval Reserve. The information gathered is used to make focused, fact based decisions to improve the Naval Reserve Force, as well as the mobilization and demobilization process.

The Web-based survey obtains information about factors such as working conditions, military culture, leadership, training, and pay and benefits that influence members to make Reserve career decisions. Most responses are graded a seven-point grading system, "Influence to stay" or "Influence to leave" scale.

Commanding Officers and Command Career Counselors should ensure 100 percent participation by Reservists at their major career points: Ad-

vancement, re-enlistment, separation, mobilization and demobilization.

Procedures for taking the survey

The survey may be completed on any computer with access to the Internet, at a mobilization site, Naval Reserve Activity, home or local library. The survey uses a branching format; not all respondents will be able to answer all questions. Here are steps for success:

- Log onto the Internet and go to Web site <https://reserves.navy.mil>.
- Go the Manpower and Personnel section.
- Enter your Social Security number, which is a required field, and is protected within the guidelines of the 1974 privacy act. The data requested is encrypted and sent over a secure transmission

Navy E-Learning

Navy E-Learning is a computer web-based training program for military personnel and their dependents. The program has several different learning topics ranging from military to professional subjects such as Military Leadership, A+ Certification Courses, Human Resources, Computer Programming, Microsoft Certification Courses and Management Courses.

What's best about this particular education benefit is the cost—absolutely free. Log onto www.navylearning.navy.mil and establish an account. The rest is up to you and your learning motivation.

Reserve Montgomery GI Bill

The Reserve GI Bill currently covers \$276.00 a month for full-time benefits. To see Basic Rates effective Oct. 1, visit www.gibill.va.gov. You can also access our Web site at <https://reserves.navy.mil>. Log into the COMNAVRESFOR secure Web page and click on the Manpower and Personnel tab for more information on MGIB-SR benefits. Our Web site has various information on GI Bill benefits, as well as a power point presentation that can be downloaded and used as a training tool.

America observes 30th Anniversary of All-Volunteer Force



Photo by U.S. Army SFC Doug Sample

WHITE HOUSE—Naval Reservist CTR1 Brian Stout (inset, shown with daughter Tatum) and 29 other members, representing all military branches, take the oath of re-enlistment administered by Air Force General Richard Myers, Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, while President George Bush observes.



WASHINGTON—For three decades, America's armed forces have served on a solely volunteer basis. The nation marked the 30th anniversary of the All-Volunteer Force on Jul. 1, when President Bush hosted a re-enlistment ceremony at the White House. Enlistments were also held at 65 military entrance-processing stations around the country.

Up until the All-Volunteer Force was established in 1973, the nation depended upon an involuntary draft system. The draft was used during World Wars I and II, and the Korean and Vietnam wars.

In the late 1960s, defense officials said, the draft came under intense scrutiny and was viewed with growing dissatisfaction and a sense of inequity by the American public. As a result, Defense Secretary Melvin R. Laird established the All-Volunteer Force, which Congress approved in 1973. After the switch, the all-volunteer military served in conflicts in the Persian Gulf, Panama, Bosnia and Kosovo.

Today, volunteer troops serve in operations *En-*

during *Freedom* in Afghanistan and *Iraqi Freedom*.

Yet, controversy has remained, with a recent push to return to the draft system. An official said there is no need to reinstate the draft. Conscription arose out of "economic" and "historical reasons," he said, and today, military leaders do not want to return to this system. "They do not want to go back to a system where people in the ranks are those who don't want to be there, who are there for short periods of time, not really focused on the job," he said. "Everyone likes being a part of a winning organization, and that's what's been created."

According to the military's top-ranking officer, the All-Volunteer Force has been a success. The service chiefs and the Joint Chiefs of Staff feel the All-Volunteer Force is working extremely well, Air Force General Richard B. Myers, chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, said at a January briefing. "The All-Volunteer Force is efficient, it's effective. It's given America, the citizens of this great country, a military that is second to none."

—Casie Vinall, special to American Forces Press Service

IN THE NAVAL RESERVE

VADM Totushek salutes Force

VADM John Totushek, who has served as Commander, Naval Reserve Force since Oct. 17, 1998, will retire in October.

His duties have included command of 88,000 Reservists and 181 Reserve facilities across the nation. VADM Totushek serves on the staff of the Chief of Naval Operations and represents the Naval Reserve to Congress. He was promoted to vice admiral on May 24, 2001.

Here are excerpts from his farewell interview with The Naval Reservist:

Q. Admiral, what has been your greatest challenge?

Two come to mind: Deploying the Navy Standardized Pay System (NSIPS) and integrating the Naval Reserve more closely with the active-duty Navy.

We went through a lot of growing pains in deploying NSIPS, but the response of our Reservists was great. They were patient and helpful in achieving the success of our current system. We are currently working towards an active and Reserve pay systems, so that we will have one Web-based pay and personnel system for the whole Navy.

The second challenge that comes to mind is our current effort to integrate the Naval Reserve more closely with the active-duty Navy. Because of budget pressures, a lot of people are pushing to make a decision that is expedient in the short term.

For the right decision, we need to look at how we can do it most effectively and actually save the Navy money. Commander, Fleet Forces Command will establish an integration directorate in the very near future, and with the help of the Naval Reserves, will define the Reserve requirements.

My crystal ball says that the Force is going to get slightly smaller. I am confident, however, because the CNO wants to do things from a good business point of view, that when all the facts are in front of him, the right decisions will be made.

Q. You have made several organizational changes and leveraged technology to enhance the Naval Reserve's customer service and support to the Fleet. What stands out to you as most significant?

We said early on that we wanted to do something meaningful for Reservists and to get it out as soon as possible. So we undertook a fairly significant effort: To launch the Web-based New Order Writing System. I look back on this as one of our paramount achievements, because it has meant so much to Reservists and to the active-duty Navy in terms of customer service.

We want to take this a step further and are working hard to achieve a system that will pay Reservists, capture their points and liquidate their orders. We're getting close and are excited about the prospect of having this capability in the not-too-distant future, maybe within a year or two.

Also, at headquarters and out in the field, we're trying to bring our aviation and our surface communities closer together. I think this is a major step forward in how we deliver our services, making us more effective across the board in supporting the fleet and the Reserve community as a whole.

Another Force improvement has been the establishment of Reserve Liaison Offi-

cers (RLOs) as our customer service representatives in the fleet. We've recently invested in better training for them prior to sending them out to the fleet, making them more effective. Now more than ever, the Navy knows whom and how to ask for support.

Q. Your recent Appreciative Inquiry (AI) summit and the ongoing Executive Steering Committee have generated some new ideas. What recommendations or pilot programs are you most excited about for the future?

I think the AI summit was wildly successful. We walked out of there with 14 different initiatives, and in less than a month, we'll hear what progress we're making.

Some ideas I thought were really innovative include an active-and-Reserve Chief-to-Chief outreach program. Like any good thing in the Navy, if you're going to get it done, the chiefs have to buy into it.

Another initiative a lot of people talked about is a Web-based product that would allow Reservists to put in their personal qualifications and availability, and allow our [active-duty Navy] customers to shop for skills needed for missions and projects.

Another idea from several non-prior service members is the concept of sending Reservists to active-duty full boot camp. Some people, whose talents we would value and desire in the Force, have civilian jobs that would preclude them from being able to take off enough time for a full boot camp, but I'm excited about looking into this.

An idea called Relevant Relay asks, "Could we take enough talented Reservists and link them together to fill a job being done by a person in a full-time position now?"

There are some great concepts out there. Some of the initiatives will become pilots that we'll continue to work, and others will already be accomplished by the time the group reports in September.

Q. If you could offer advice to a new Reservist entering the Force today, what would you tell him or her?

I'll limit this to my best I can share: First, enjoy your time, because it's fleeting and goes by fast. I haven't calculated my number of years, but they went by like it was overnight. It was really a good time and I got to do things I never would have done if I hadn't had this experience.

Second, don't undersell what you can do or what you'd like to do. Tell people what you want to do and let them know that you're available.

Finally, stay positive. Be a part of the process and make sure your voice is heard about what is the best thing for the Navy.

Q. Any final words, Admiral?

"Thanks!" Our many Force achievements that have been so successful and worth doing have fallen on the shoulders of you, on staffs and in the field; we couldn't have accomplished so much without you.

This experience has been such a privilege, not only for myself, but for my wife, Jan, as well. We have truly enjoyed being associated with so many wonderful people in this worthwhile, professional organization. We wish all of you and your families the best, in your personal lives as well as in your dedicated service to our nation.



Photo by PH1 Edward G. Martens

READINESS—A C-9B Skytrain II assigned to Fleet Logistics Squadron (VR) 57 climbs above the clouds over San Diego during a routine training flight. VR-57 "Conquistadors" are active-duty and Selected Reserve personnel who provide around-the-clock, world-wide logistics support for Navy and Marine Corps regular and Reserve forces.

Attention, enterprising writers and potentially publicized photographers

The Naval Reservist needs your submissions. It is only through contributions of our fellow Reservists that The Naval Reservist can continue to put out a quality product concerning issues as far-reaching as the oceans are wide.

Due to recent modifications, we are proud to report a change in our network provider. The Navy-Marine Corps Intranet (NMCI) moves communications to the next phase of development. The new provider's main objectives in reference to the Navy and Marine Corps include:

- Enhanced network security
- Knowledge sharing across the globe
- Increased productivity
- Improved systems reliability and quality of service
- Reduced cost of voice, video and data services.

Through the NMCI network, 360,000 desktops will soon be linked across the United States as well as sites in Puerto Rico, Iceland and Cuba.

What does all this mean to our patriotic patrons?

Well, your superb submissions will need to be re-directed to our newly acquired e-mail accounts. So, to all aspiring authors and supporters of the skilled shutterbug, please send your suggestions to these online addresses:

- For submission of news articles and feature stories with photos, send to the following e-mail: navaresfor_tnr@navy.mil
- For submission of articles without photos, send to the address above and also to the following: navaresfor_nrns@navy.mil
- Check all stories prior to

submission against the U.S. Navy Style Guide, online at: www.news.navy.mil/tools/view_styleguide_all.asp.

• Any photographs submitted must be accompanied by a Visual Identification Record Identification Number (VIRIN). For more about VIRINs, go to:

www.mediacen.navy.mil/vi/virin.htm

Please make sure all photographs submitted have 300 dpi or better resolution, so that we can ensure quality reproductions within our publication.

With sustained support of our reading and writing public, we will carry on in our efforts to serve the Reserve community at large. We at The Naval Reservist thank you for continuing to confirm the need for an informative publication.

—JOSN J. Hastings McIver, COMNAVRESFOR Public Affairs

This is Who We Are

- As members of the U.S. Naval Reserve Force, we are patriots serving our country, committed and dedicated to our nation's defense.
- We bring our best military and civilian experience to the Navy-Marine Corps Team.
- We are role models in our communities.
- We build leaders.

Our identity as Naval Reservists within the Navy-Marine Corps Team defines and enhances our allegiance to the Navy Core Values of Honor, Courage and Commitment, and to the Sailor's Creed.

WHAT'S NEW

Issue	Summary	References
Telecommuting Authority For the Drilling Reserve (SELRES)	Policy and procedures for Naval Reservists to telecommute are outlined. This management option is intended to increase flexibility and productivity by maximizing resources. Telecommuting, which may be used for regular pay and non-pay drills, is not to be used solely for convenience of a member.	ALNAVRESFOR 028/03

* VIEW MESSAGES ONLINE—Reservists can view some messages on the Internet. For Reserve ALNAVRESFORs, go to <http://reserves.navy.mil>. For Navy ALNAVs and NAVADMINs, go to Web site www.bupers.navy.mil and select "messages."

TRAINING

The Apply Board

Tips for success

MEMPHIS, Tenn.—With only 30 percent of those who apply getting selected for specific billets, it's wise for every Selected Reserve officer to make sure records are in order before the next board convenes. Here are a few career-planning tips:

- **FITREPs.** Show your commanding officer you are paying attention to career development. Take advantage of mid-term counseling; you don't want to find out too late that you weren't meeting expectations. Lower scores and downward trends from a prior "Early Promote" or "Must Promote" send a lack-of-confidence message to the board.
- **Performance Summary Record (PSR).** Civilian experience may qualify an officer for an additional Naval Officer Billet Code, particularly when skill is relevant to the primary NOBC. Additional areas of expertise are important in competitive tie-breakers. See BUPERS Instruction 158391.
- **Current photo.** A current photo must be on record at Navy Personnel Command (BUPERS).
- **Naval Reserve Officer Qualifications Questionnaire (NROQQ).** If you've received a new degree or credential, send in your diploma/certificate and transcripts to BUPERS. Copies must be legible for scanning.
- **Personal awards.** Awards and recognition for special achievement is closely scrutinized; make sure your record accurately reflects your achievements.
- **Communications to the board.** A letter to accompany missing information—such as a fitness report, new diploma or award—is acceptable correspondence. Do not send unnecessary information; the board will likely surmise that you did not take time to review your own record. Remember, correspondence can come only from an applicant.
- **Ability to Travel.** Apply for every job you wish to be considered for within the radius you're willing to travel. If you are moving from one location to another for your civilian employer, explain this factor in the "remarks" section. Officers have been assigned billets that were not on their original applications, but that met travel requirements.

Each January, the Web-based Apply application process begins, and between January and April, officers can instantly review all available billets as they're updated throughout the country.

Visit the Naval Reserve Web site at <http://reserves.navy.mil> for the latest Apply Board information. Log onto the private access pages and click on the Manpower and Personnel tab.

—COMNAVRESFOR Public Affairs



OKINAWA, Japan—Activated Reservist SK2 Charles Diggs fires a 9-mm Beretta pistol during his practical weapons qualifications at the Commander Fleet Activities Okinawa Navy Security Annex.

Travel Card training available online

The Department of the Navy (DON) eBusiness Operations Office now offers expanded availability and content of Government Travel Credit Card (GTCC) training on-line for DON personnel. Cardholders, commanding officers, and Agency Program Coordinators (APCs) can use Video Teletraining (VTT) to learn about DON Financial Card programs, offered in partnership with the Navy Supply Corps School (NSCS). Course descriptions, schedules and additional information are available on-line at www.don-ebusiness.navy.mil, the DON eBusiness Web site. Individuals can reserve quotas for VTT courses by ac-

cessing Web site www.nscs.cnet.navy.mil. Complementing VTT training, the DON eBusiness Operations Office also provides computer-based training targeted to commanding officers, APCs and cardholders. This training is available on CD or can be downloaded from the Web site. APCs can also download desk guides, which give a detailed, step-by-step approach to executing the GTCC program. For additional information, please contact SKC(AW) Brian Dingess, your COMNAVRESFOR GTCC Level III APC, at brian.dingess@navy.mil. —CAPT Joe Murphy, COMNAVRESFOR N4

Anthrax vaccinations resume

Continuation of the Anthrax vaccination program for Naval Reservists is outlined in ALNAVRESFOR 021/03. In accordance with the message, all personnel who have started or resumed the Anthrax vaccination series as a result of deployment orders to a high-threat area shall complete the series. Additionally, personnel separating from active duty, but continuing service with the

Naval Reserve, must continue the entire series regardless of mobilization status. Personnel within 180 days of an approved retirement or separation date shall be granted administrative exemptions from continuing the vaccination program. Commanders, commanding officers and officers-in-charge above the pay grade of O-3 are designated exemption granting authorities.—COMNAVRESFOR Public Affairs

TRAVEL

Travel Q&A

Naval Reservists ask questions for COMNAVRESFOR N33 Travel to answer:
Q: I called the airlines and changed my itinerary after it came up on virtuallythere.com, but when I got to the airport I discovered the ticket had not been paid for. I made these arrangements almost three months ago, so I figured everything was okay. Why did your shop drop the ball?
A: SATO books reservations for airlines and then places those bookings in an automated ticketing cue. If a member changes his or her itinerary prior to ticketing, then the automated cue cannot find the reservation and cannot purchase tickets. Your travel itinerary directs any change requests be e-mailed to SATO at eastbanknocto@sato.travel.com. Ticketing normally takes place 10 days prior to the start of travel. Calling an airline and changing an itinerary after ticketing is not a problem, assuming the airline will make the requested change.
Q: I requested to fly on Delta airlines when I put in my ordered application, but SATO ignored it and put me on United. Why can't they get it right?
A: An application request is just that—a request. SATO considers if they can comply with your personal preferences, but they must follow a hierarchy of travel procedure. When your travel request goes to SATO and NAVPTO, they determine what airline has the contract for the route you need. If there is a seat available on the contract carrier, then SATO is required to book it. If a number of carriers are available and there is no

contract carrier for that route, or if the contract carrier is full, then SATO will put you on your requested airline.
Business-class Travel
Having just completed the annual crush of travel reservations for Reservists deploying to exercise *Ulchi Focus Lens* in Korea, I will attempt to clarify policy on when and where business-class air travel is authorized for Force members. Here are some of the facts:
• Business class typically costs the government three-to-five times the equivalent coach fare and rapidly depletes funding for Annual Training, Active Duty Training and Inactive Duty Training Travel.
• COMNAVRESFOR holds authority, which cannot be delegated, to authorize business-class travel.
• The Joint Federal Travel Regulations state that business class may be authorized for trips of 14 hours or more. COMNAVRESFOR policy is that we attempt to fly you to your destination with a break in travel, allowing a rest period. We may alternatively have you fly one day early, so you have at least an eight-hour period after travel and prior to reporting for duty.
• We do occasionally have to use business class when no other class of service is available, but that happens rarely.
Travel Information
Please visit the State Department's travel warning Web site at <http://Travel.state.gov> for up-to-date travel warnings before embarking on any overseas travel.

Commander, Naval Reserve Force Command N33 Travel Specialists can be reached at 1-877-583-8671.
• NROWS help desk: 1-800-537-4617
NROWS has changed its name to Naval Reserve Order Writing System (NROWS), and the NROWS version "B" is on the street. If you have logged into NROWS recently, you may have noticed that layout has changed and things are operating a little differently. Not to worry. All features of the old layout still reside in the new system, though they may reside in different places. You will see almost all fields have a question mark next to them. Clicking on the question mark next to each field will provide an expanded explanation or definition to assist you in submitting correct information on your order requests. We anticipate very minor modifications to the system until the next version, due in summer or fall 2004.
NROWS of the Future: CNRF is pursuing a major upgrade to NROWS, which would integrate the Defense Travel System (DTS) with NROWS. DTS provides an online booking engine and a direct electronic interface with Defense Finance and Accounting System (DFAS) for liquidation of Naval Reservists' travel vouchers. Many details must be ironed out, but this integrated system would provide expeditious travel arrangements with 72-hour travel claim liquidation. Stay tuned for further information on this initiative.
Please e-mail your comments, suggestions and travel questions to william.tower@navy.mil. —CDR Bill Tower

OPPORTUNITIES

Naval Air Systems Program

Selected Reservists are needed to support NAVAIR Air Systems Program (ASP) in pay billets at units across the nation. The ASP is primarily a 15XX designator community, but 13XX officers with the following experience are encouraged to apply: aerospace engineering, aircraft maintenance, operations development, acquisition, production, testing and logistics support of aircraft. Other desirable qualifications include aerospace aviation weapons system or related support systems with government agencies or the aerospace/defense industry. Current billet vacancies exist in San Diego, Santa Clara and Pt. Mugu, Calif.; St. Louis, Mo.; Cherry Point, N.C.; Minneapolis, Minn.; and Newport, R.I. Point of contact is CDR Dean Newman, program manager, AIR-7.9E at (301) 757-2153, DSN 757-2153 or e-mail newmanrd@navair.navy.mil.

Command Master Chief Leadership

All commands with primary duty Command Master Chief (9580) billets are encouraged to send members to the Naval Reserve Command Master Chief Leadership Continuum, scheduled for Oct. 13-17 in New Orleans. Participants will look at current programs, policies and leadership challenges. Details of forum format and schedule, conference fee and uniform requirements are forthcoming. Please R.S.V.P. intention to attend to PNC Lynn Harcarik at (504) 678-5293. Billeting will be at the Renaissance Pere Marquette Hotel, phone (504) 525-1111, which will give per diem rate to those identifying themselves as "Reserve CMDCM Leadership Continuum Participants." Rental cars are not recommended, because parking is limited and cost prohibitive. Taxis are readily available and an airport shuttle reservation can be obtained by calling (504) 522-3500.

Air Systems Unit

Reservists (O-3/O-4, 15XX/13XX) with engineering or technical science backgrounds are needed to serve in pay billets of the Air Systems Program unit, NR NAWS WD 0276, NAWS China Lake, Calif. E-mail BearpawPub@mindspring.com.

Blood Program needs donors

The Armed Services Blood Program needs eligible Type O blood donors to support ongoing military operations worldwide and to replenish the military's frozen blood reserves. "Type O donors are the first line of defense for trauma victims. Until a blood type can be verified, Type O blood is used to keep trauma victims alive," said Air Force Lt. Col. Ruth Sylvester, Armed Services Blood Program director. "Once their blood type is determined, type-specific blood is transfused. But without Type O blood available, many patients would never make it until test results come back." A single battlefield injury victim can require more than 40 units of blood in an emergency. Type O donors are especially important to readiness because their blood can be transfused safely for all blood types, especially in remote areas where it's not possible to test for blood type. The program also needs Type O blood to maintain its frozen blood reserve. The military maintains a supply of frozen red blood cells to use when fresh blood is not immediately available. Since frozen blood can be safely stored for up to 10 years, it ensures that blood is always readily available to meet the military's needs worldwide. Making the present need more acute is that military blood donor centers can only collect blood from active-duty service members, Reservists, government employees, retirees and military family members. That excludes many Operation *Iraqi Freedom* veterans, who are deferred from donating for one year because they served in areas where malaria is endemic. This makes regular donations from eligible donors critical. Blood program officials encourage potential donors or those who could sponsor a group blood drive to contact their local military blood collection facility. For details, go to Web site www.tricare.osd.mil/asbpo/. —Special to the American Forces Press Service, based on an Army Surgeon General's office release

Thanks for the memories . . . DoD pays tribute to Bob Hope

Bob Hope entertained America's military forces, including many Naval Reservists, in wartime and other periods of deployment across the globe for decades.

In this 1970 photo taken by Reservist SMC(SW) Len Burkhardt (as a young Sailor on active duty), Bob (lower right foreground) regales the crew of *USS John F. Kennedy* (CV 67) on their first overseas deployment to Souda Bay, Crete. In the 1990s, when the Navy designated JFK as an Operational Reserve Carrier (OCR) for several years, hundreds of Selected Reservists served on JFK for their Annual Training.



We mourn the loss of a true American patriot. The first and only American ever to be made an honorary veteran of America's Armed Forces, Bob Hope holds a special place in the national security pantheon. He called the troops his best friends, and he made it his mission to be with them wherever they served, regardless of distance or danger.

To many of our forces from across generations, Bob Hope's visits were a taste of home in a far-off land; a moment of mirth in the middle of war, and a loud and clear message to our military that America honored their service and prayed for their safe return.

Bob Hope's final tour, at age 90, took him to the Persian Gulf and the men and women of *Desert Storm*.

Although he is no longer with us in life, he will always remain, just as he was, in our hearts — cracking jokes, boosting morale and reminding all the world of what it means to be an American.

With profound gratitude for his decades of service to our country, we extend our deepest sympathy to his family and many friends.

—Department of Defense Statement on the death of Bob Hope, who died July 27. This tribute can be viewed online at www.dod.mil/releases/2003/nr20030728-0262.html.

JFK today serves again in active Navy ops. At right, JFK Sailors "Man the Rails" in late August as the carrier is guided into Naval Station Mayport, Fla., by tug boats. Kennedy returned home after completing a six-month-long deployment conducting combat missions in support of Operation *Enduring Freedom*.



USNS Bob Hope (T-AKR 300) is one of 10 noncombatant, civilian-crewed ships to face heat and dust storms while loading U.S. Army's 3rd Infantry Division combat gear in Kuwait this summer. All 10 ships, which brought back nearly 892,000 square feet of the 3rd ID's gear, are part of the Navy's Military Sealift Command, the ocean transportation provider for all U.S. military services. *Bob Hope* is one of 18 large, medium-speed roll-on/roll-off ships—all newly delivered since the Persian Gulf War of the early 1990s—that can each carry 300,000 square feet of cargo. These 950-foot long LMSRs have made multiple trips into and out of theater to move millions of square feet of military gear. The vast majority of combat equipment and supplies is moved by sea on cargo ships like *Bob Hope* because it is the only practical way to move the immense amount of combat equipment needed by deployed U.S. warfighters.

USNS Bob Hope (T-AKR 300), one of the Navy's newest and largest cargo ships, was christened in 1997. These ships are typically named after Medal of Honor recipients. *Bob Hope* is the first entertainer to have a Navy ship named in his honor. The honor is appropriate because of his support of countless U.S. troops over the course of more than five decades. While transiting the Gulf of Oman on July 27, *Bob Hope's* crew received news that the ship's namesake, comedian Bob Hope, had died. CAPT Dave Henderson, the ship's master, flew a U.S. flag in honor of the beloved entertainer.

"He was such an amazing man, and we are lucky to work on a ship that carries his name," Henderson said. "We plan to send the flag we flew to his family in California."

—Sheree Callahan, Military Sealift Command Public Affairs

WHAT'S NEW

REDCOM Northeast



NEWPORT, R.I.—HC3(SW) Rob Dacunha has returned home after serving with 2nd Battalion, 23rd Marines, taking care of the injured during Operation *Iraqi Freedom*.

While in Iraq, Dacunha was in charge of driving an ambulance and responding to injured personnel. He also provided care to many Iraqis who were caught in cross-fire. Dacunha is glad to be home, but said he would be ready to return if called upon. "I'm so happy that we helped out over there," Dacunha said. —JO1(SW/AW) Steve Bansbach, REDCOM Northeast Public Affairs

BRUNSWICK, Maine—Four Sailors from Naval Air Reserve (NAR) Brunswick volunteered their services in support of the Bath-Brunswick Habitat for Humanity. The Sailors volunteered their labor to build and rehabilitate a home as part of the program to provide housing for less-fortunate families. "This has been great experience for me," said PNSN Sadie Smits. "I can't wait to do it again." — JO1 Jeremy Allen, NAR Brunswick Public Affairs

REDCOM SouthWest



LOS ANGELES—PN3 Shannon Cronin of Naval and Marine Corps Reserve Center (NAVMARCORESCEN) Los Angeles was selected to participate in the Boeing's "Educators to Space Camp" program at the U.S. Space and Rocket Center in Huntsville, Ala. Cronin's civilian job teaching at Sowers Middle School in Huntington Beach, Calif. She was nominated by the Huntington Beach City School District and selected as winner by the district superintendent. The six-day space camp was created to offer a unique educational experience and to teach educators what it is like to live and work in space. The program provides educators with many of the resources they need to inspire and motivate their students to learn more about math, science and space.

— JO2 Margaret A. Peng, NAVMARCORESCEN Los Angeles

REDCOM South



FORT WORTH, Texas—RADM John A. Jackson, Commander, REDCOM South, has been named an honorary Master Chief Petty Officer.



LINEHANDLING—EM2(SS) Michael Hunt (foreground) of NR Battle Group Staff 8 and other Sailors from Naval Reserve Center Forest Park, Ill., handle lines for tall ship *Pride of Baltimore*. Thousands of onlookers watched *HMS Bounty* and other ships sail into the Chicago harbor during the Tall Ships Challenge 2003. More than 100 Reservists provided direct shore support as ship liaison officers during the six-day event.

cer. MCPON(SW/AW) Terry Scott certified Jackson with the honor during REDCOM South's recent Command Master Chief/Command Career Counselor conference. Jackson, a true advocate for enlisted forces since his com-

mission 32 years ago, has developed a strong passion for the welfare and quality of life of every Sailor.

—REDCOM South Public Affairs

REDCOM Northwest



FORT CARSON, Colo.—Explosions rang out at Naval Reserve Center (NAVRESCEN) Fort Carson during a recent drill weekend. General Quarters was sounded and medical personnel gathered to assess the situation. It was all part of a mass casualty drill simulating an attack scenario. Personnel of Fleet Hospital (FH) Minneapolis Det. 5 rendered assistance and established a triage site. FH leadership deemed the exercise a success and are already planning another evolution for the January drill period.

—Navy Information Bureau Det. 1118

ARCO, Idaho—The rural Idaho town of Arco is now home to the conning tower of *USS Hawkbill* (SSN 666). Some two-dozen Naval Reservists from Naval Reserve Center (NAVRESCEN) Pocatello spent the last year-and-a-half laying the foundation, putting down conduits for lighting and welding the sail in place. The monument honors the site where nuclear propulsion for submarines began. Arco town leaders plan to make *Hawkbill's* sail the cornerstone of a future museum that will highlight nuclear advancements during and after the Cold War.

— LTJG Penny Cockerell, Navy Information Bureau Det. 1118

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—Compiled by JOC Cleve Hardman

AROUND THE FLEET



Photo by PH2 Veronica Birmingham

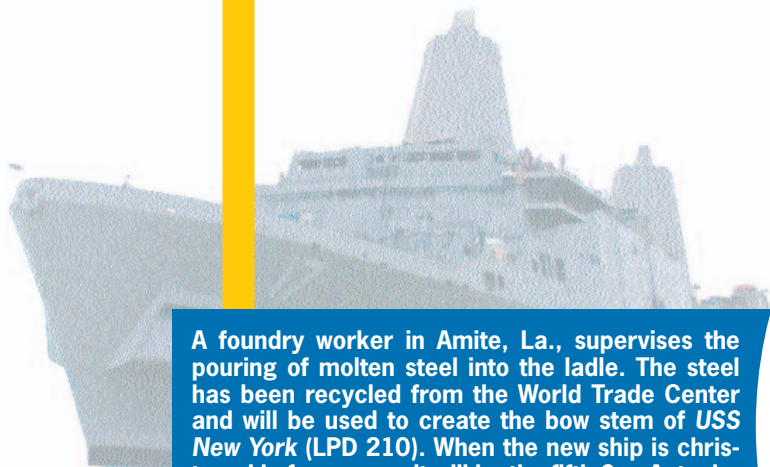
NAVAL FORCES CENTRAL COMMAND—Mark Six swimmer defense dolphins are deployed to the Arabian Gulf to provide operational force protection capabilities for Navy ships, piers and other high-value assets as part of the Global War on Terrorism. The dolphins are trained to detect, locate and mark threat swimmers and divers attempting to commit terrorist attacks.

KADENA AIR BASE, Okinawa, Japan—LTJG Matt Cole from Annapolis, Md., inspects the tail rotor on an SH-60 helicopter before it takes off from Kadena Air Base, Okinawa. LTJG Cole is a pilot from Helicopter Anti-Submarine Light Squadron Fifty One (HSL-51) on detachment from Naval Air Facility Atsugi, Japan.



Photo by PHAN Kaitlyn Rae Vargo

For news of Fleet operations worldwide, check the Navy NewsStand Web site at www.news.navy.mil. View news of Naval Reservists on the NewsStand at www.news.navy.mil/local/nrf.



A foundry worker in Amite, La., supervises the pouring of molten steel into the ladle. The steel has been recycled from the World Trade Center and will be used to create the bow stem of *USS New York* (LPD 210). When the new ship is christened in four years, it will be the fifth San Antonio-class amphibious dock ship, a key element of 21st century Amphibious Ready Groups, Expeditionary Strike Groups and Joint Task Forces.



Photo by PH1 Dean Dunwoody

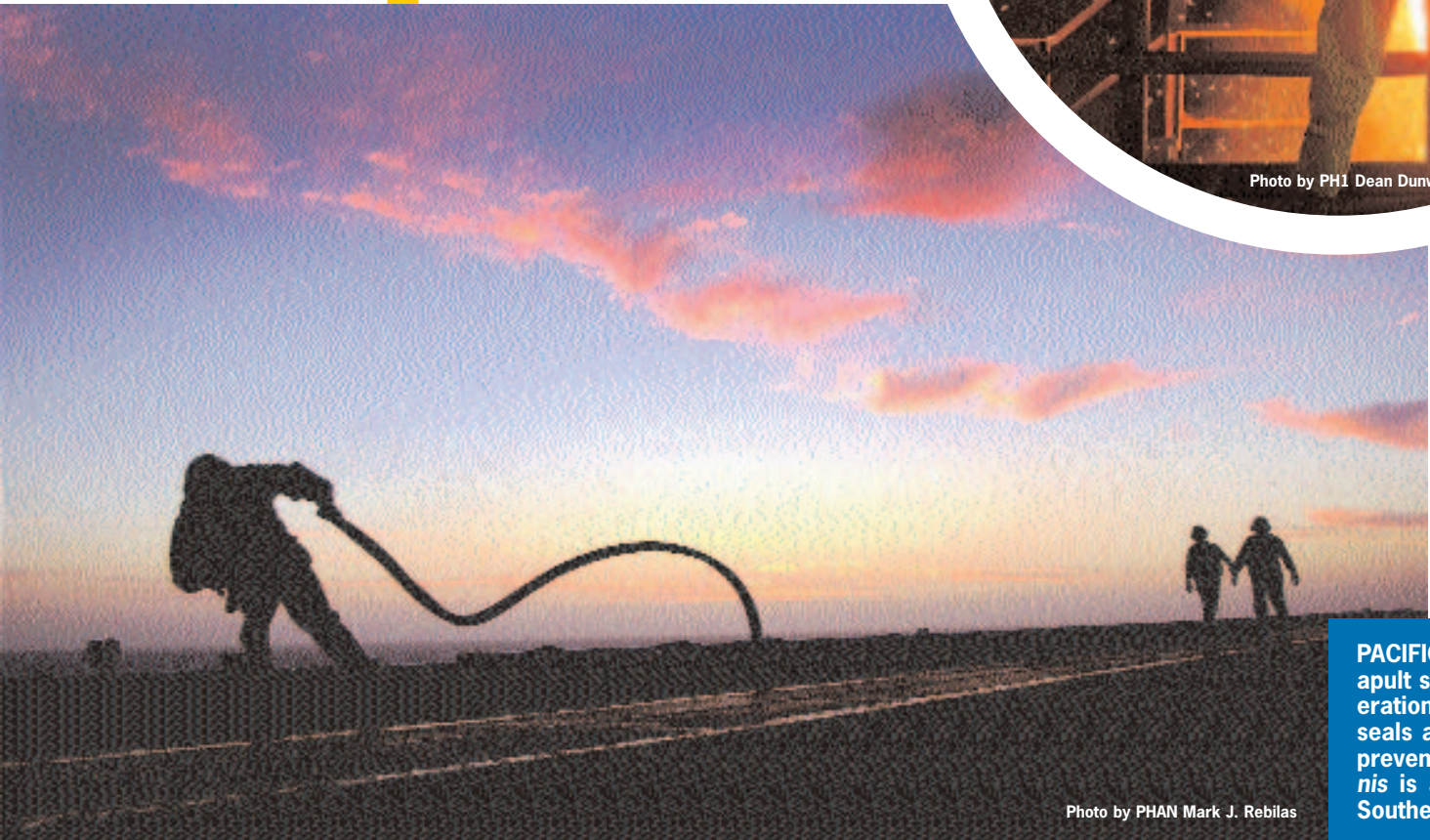


Photo by PHAN Mark J. Rebilas

PACIFIC OCEAN—Flight deck personnel remove catapult slot seals in preparation for evening flight operations aboard *USS John C. Stennis* (CVN 74). Slot seals are used to keep the catapults insulated and prevent debris from falling into the open slot. *Stennis* is at sea conducting training exercises in the Southern California operating area.